

Docket No.: 00 P 7493 US
App. No. 09/516,908

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for providing data files to a remote user over a channel comprising:
determining a the speed of a channel, said determining including sending a test on said channel and detecting a transfer time of said test on said channel;
using said speed, estimating a the transfer time for a data file;
responsive to said transfer time for said data file, and based on a parameter set an adjustable threshold defined by the remote user, determining whether to transfer either said data file or a compressed version of said data file, said adjustable threshold referring to a maximum delay for receipt of said data file;
receiving an indication from a user system as to what compression formats are decodable by said user system; and
transferring said data file or a compressed version of said data file, based on said ~~determining~~ transfer time for said data file and whether said transfer time for said data file is within said adjustable threshold defined by the remote user, said compressed version of said data file being in conformity with compression formats decodable by said user system.
2. (canceled)
3. (original) A method according to claim 1 wherein said determining the speed of a channel is initiated when a request is received from a user to download a large digital file.

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4. (original) A method according to claim 1 wherein said data files include at least one file of at least one file type from the group consisting of:

digitally encoded audio files,
digitally encoded video files,
digitally encoded text, and
digitally encoded images.

5. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 [[2]] wherein said sending a test is initiated in response to a user login.

6. (canceled)

7. (original) A method according to claim 1 further comprising:
transmitting to a user system an applet required to access a compressed file.

8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 further comprising:
~~comparing a transfer time for a data file to a threshold;~~
transferring a compressed file instead of said large digital data file if said transfer time exceeds said adjustable threshold.

10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) A method according to claim 9 further comprising:
if a time for transmitting a file exceeds said adjustable threshold,
converting a file to another format in conformity with compression formats
decodable by said user system.

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12. (currently amended) A method for providing remotely accessible multimedia messages comprising:

determining ~~a~~ the speed of a channel, said determining including sending a test on said channel and detecting a transfer time of said test on said channel;

determining ~~a~~ the transfer time for available messages and attachments using the size of available messages and attachments and said speed;

providing data representing a list of available messages to a user, wherein at least one listed message with a transit time greater than a user defined adjustable transit time threshold is provided with at least two compression options, said at least two compressible options being transferable within a user defined adjustable transit time threshold and being in conformity with compression formats decodable by a user system; and receiving from a user data indicating a desired compression option.

13. (canceled)

14. (original) A method according to claim 12 wherein said multimedia messages include at least one file of at least one file type from the group consisting of:

digitally encoded voice messages,
digitally encoded email messages,
digitally encoded video messages, and
facsimiles.

15. (currently amended) A method according to claim 12 further comprising:

~~receiving an indication from a user system as to what compression formats are decodable by said user system;~~
~~when necessary,~~ transmitting to a user system an applet required to access a compressed file.

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16. (original) A method according to claim 12 further comprising:
using user access patterns and information and system information to determine whether to compress messages before a server is connected to by a user and to determine whether to delete precompressed messages when system resources are low.
17. (currently amended) A server system able to communicate adjustable sized messages to a client comprising:
an interface (220) able to connect over a channel (110) or an optional channel (110a) to a user system;
a test (140) sent over an active channel to determine a channel speed;
a timer (240) able to determine said channel speed;
two or more message files (252) of a determined size, selectable for presentation; and
one or more compressed message files (254), alternatively selectable for presentation, wherein at least one message file or compressed file is transferred to a client based on an adjustable threshold transit time defined by the client, said adjustable threshold transit time referring to a maximum delay for receipt of said data file at least one message file or compressed file.
18. (original) An apparatus according to claim 17 further comprising:
analysis logic for determining whether to compress messages prior to access by a user, based on user parameters.
19. (original) An apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said apparatus is embodied into a fixed media containing logic instructions that when loaded into appropriately configured computer systems will cause the system to embody said server.

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20. (currently amended) A method for presenting to a user a list (400) of messages for interacting with a multimedia message server comprising:
- presenting to a user an identification (402) of a message available for transfer;
 - presenting, for said message, a sender information, a file format and an indication of a first transfer time (410) and a second transfer time (412), said second transfer time indicating time for transfer of a compressed message, determining said second transfer time based on a channel speed and a size of said compressed message; and
 - registering a user action indicating a compression option to be transferred.
21. (canceled)
22. (previously presented) A method according to claim 12 wherein said data representing a list of available messages includes an indication that, among the compression options, one indicated compression option provides a greater degree of compression than another compression option.
23. (previously presented) A method according to claim 22 wherein said at least two compression options include at least three compression options, and said data includes an indication of the hierarchy of degree of compression among at least said three compression options.
24. (previously presented) A method according to claim 12 wherein said available messages include a message addressed to the user.
25. (previously presented) A method according to claim 24 where the message is of a message type from the group consisting of:
- a telephony voice message,

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a facsimile message, and
an electronic mail message.

26. (previously presented) A method according to claim 14 wherein said multimedia messages include at least one file of each of at least two file types from the group.

27. (previously presented) A method according to claim 12 further comprising providing a message using only the desired compression option.

28. (canceled)

29. (canceled)

30. (previously presented) A method according to claim 9 wherein said parameter includes said threshold.

31. (previously presented) A method according to claim 4 wherein said data files include at least one file of each of at least two file types from the group.

32. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein said determining step is further based on usage level of a computer system.

33. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1 further comprising generating said compressed version of said data file.

34. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining whether to transfer said data file or said compressed version is hereinafter referred to as the version determining

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step, the method further comprising determining whether to pre-generate said compressed version of said data file before said version determining step.

35. (previously presented) A method according to claim 34 wherein said step of determining whether to generate is based on a parameter specific to said remote user.